Their performance is regularly monitored through periodical performance report. As and when complaints are received, they are examined as per procedure and appropriate action is initiated as warranted.

The Government has framed rules for conduct of various surveys that are required for certification of ships. The MMD Surveyors follow certification procedure uniformly irrespective of the size of the company. The fees charged for smaller vessel or for smaller inspections are generally less than those for bigger ships and inspections so as to ensure that there is no undue financial burden on small entrepreneurs.

Opposition of Road Safety Forum to Formula One Car Racing

1892. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a representation from the Road Safety Forum against encouraging super-speed racing formula one car racing and other such events in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Road Safety Forum cautioned that such events will have a "Demonstration Effect" on millions of youth in India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Road Safety Forum had elaborated that the number of road accident would increase due to glamorization of accidents on the roads; and

(d) the reasons for the lack of interest by Government in preventing increase of deaths on our roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Road Safety Forum in their representation *inter alia* stated that Formula 1 racing with increase high-speed driving in India, aggravating road accidents. They have cautioned that high-speed driving will have disastrous consequence on all the drivers in this country and, therefore, the country cannot afford such frivolities. Hence the Government should ban advertisements which encourage products relating to high-speed driving.

(d) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However this department has taken several steps to improve road safety for the road users which are as under:

(i) Road safety is the integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

(ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

(iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector.

(iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Department of Road Transport and Highways and NHAI.

(v) Setting up of Model Driving Training School in the country by Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media by Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field road safety by Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.

(ix) Provision of cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.

(x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

Construction of bypasses around Jaipur

†1893. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there being a heavy traffic on the National Highway, Jaipur needs to have by-passes all around the city;

(b) if so, by when Government is likely to grant permission for the construction of a by-pass linking Jaipur-Tonk Road (NH-12) with Ajmer-Jaipur Road (NH-8) and Jaipur-Delhi Road (NH-8) with Tonk-Jaipur Road (NH-12), Jaipur-Agra Road (NH-11) and Agra-Jaipur Road (NH-11); and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) There is already a Jaipur by-pass on western side of National Highway 8 connecting Delhi-Jaipur (National Highway 8) to Jaipur-Bikaner (National Highway 11) to Jaipur-Ajmer (National Highway 8).

(b) and (c) Ring road/bypass for Jaipur has been included in the tentative list of cities for stand alone Ring Roads, Bypasses, Elevated Roads, Grade Separated Intersections and Flyovers under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase VII. However, NHDP Phase VII is yet to be approved by the Government.

Renovation of NHs in Rajasthan

†1894. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that periodic renovation and general repair of the National Highways in Rajasthan need more funds than those allocated by Government;

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to issue the balance amount;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the periodic renovation of the National Highways is undertaken after gap of three to four years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.